irregularities of the slope, and the general process has been one of building around or avoiding them. It might also be remembered that this is a new town, built up since the destruction of the old in the valley in 1917. 361

The streets and lanes are unpaved, their surfaces the rough face of the rock, resembling in most cases a hard, cobblestone pavement. As many of them are precipitous, accidents, particularly at night, are not uncommon, and in the winter of 1950 two persons suffered broken limbs by losing their footing. There is a "main thoroughfare," a central artery of travel to which most lanes lead, corresponding in part to the street leading through the bazar. In reaching the top of the bluff by the steep, winding automobile road from the valley, two streets branch out around the serai and join together just before the bazar to form the principal street and center. Where the bazar merges with the upper residential section, two lanes, more important than others, divide to skirt the hill which dominates this upper area and join again above the town. Along the streets, the open spaces between the houses are often lined with fences, either of rubble or of interwoven branches, usually enclosing a garden. The lots left vacant are either barren soil, such as the "brickyard" noticed above, or covered with tough, long grass and scrub vegetation. A number of trees grow unattended along the edges of the cliffs, but almost all others are confined to the gardens and yards of private dwellings. 363 351 361 [37]

4: Hansen E-5 (1957) 1961 MA1: Kurd MA11

342
363
291

Fig. 16. Stone wall with inserted horizontal beams, Urmia.

of this, with a kind of timber frame consisting of short, dumpy-like, wooden beams placed horizontally in the stone walls through not jointed together. The stones in the wall have either no binding agent or clay is used as mortar. In the newer houses cement has been adopted. The interior walls in some of the rooms are covered by a clay or gypsum layer applied by the women, which is afterwards polished with flat stones. It appears like a thick white oil paint. In villages and in the older houses in Suleimani, on the other hand, the walls are made of mud bricks, still. The newer houses in Suleimani are built of burnt brick. In the villages the bricks are first formed from the clay available on the building site, mixed with water and thoroughly kneaded by the feet of men. Water for the kneading process is obtained by diverting an irrigation channel to the building site, or fetched in goatskins which are hung in pairs on the back of a donkey. Pebbles for the foundation, and for the rear wall if the house is built out of the side of a hill, are also transported by donkeys, being carried in basket-shaped frames. The kneaded mass of clay is formed into the individual brick in a rectangular wooden frame, in the same way as we form new pans. The brick is put out on the hillside to dry for some days without much attention being paid as to whether the surface is really flat. After the foundation of the wall has been

342
324

342
333

Fig. 28. Lane in Sulaimani. Left: wall of burnt bricks. Right: wall of mud bricks.
Fig. 29. Mud wall with entrance to baking room. Woman is rolling dough on a baking table. Sulaimani.

The house now to be reviewed as a type of residential background for the two feminine environments in urban surroundings, is the family house of my interpreter in Sulaimani. The father was a businessman who, as representative for a big firm in Baghdad, had a shop for electrical articles in the main street of Sulaimani. Although he traded in these modern things the business was fitted up like one of the larger booths in the city with a carpet-covered bench for the customers and a small writing-shop table for the proprietor—for example, just like a goldsmith's booth.

In addition to the husband, about 40, the family in this house consisted of two wives, 35 and 30, and eleven children. Of these five were sons: 20, 15, 8, 6 and about 4 months, and six daughters, two youngsters, 20, the others 18, 17, 16, 13 and 3. A 19 year old daughter was married and lived with her husband's family (joint or extended family household). Personally, then, 14 persons lived in the house.

Like the Sheikh property at Tagawra, the house was an entity shut off from the world around although not resident in a detached house. It comprised one of a row of one-storied houses built together in the older quarter of Sulaimani, and looked out on an unpaved alley between windowless walls. The house consisted of an older part built of unburnt clay bricks, and a newer section built of fired yellow bricks. Both parts had a roof of poplar rafters covered with brushwood and a rolled clay roof on top. The only difference between them was that the rafters of the older part of the house projected, as is the case in village architecture, like a strong arm for the protection of the clay roof, whilst the clay roof had almost no projection over the brick walls. The house was constructed around a courtyard. Apart from the little entrance door it was completely shut off from the outside world. The entrance door was at one end of the wall of fired brick that shut